The Berlin Wall Must Go Rallies in the 1980s

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CARP members marching in Berlin in 1982

In West-Berlin, beginning in 1982, every year, until the fall of the Berlin Wall on Nov. 9, 1989, CARP (Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles) members and friends held rallies to motivate the public to stand up for freedom and the reunification of Germany..

German Unificationist Dieter Schmidt addresses rally in Berlin on June 17, 1983

On August 8, 1987, with the support of members from Europe and around the world, CARP staged a convention, a sports festival, and a mass demonstration to protest the division of Germany and in particular the Berlin Wall. At the time of these events, there had been no mass demonstration in Berlin against the Berlin Wall since it had been built in 1961. Father Moon's son, Hyo-Jin Moon, who was the American CARP leader at the time led a march of several hundred through central West-Berlin chanting "The wall must go (die Mauer muss weg!)," the demonstrators assembled at the Peter Fechter-Cross – a memorial for a young man shot when trying to climb over the wall, near the famous Checkpoint Charlie. As will be seen in the video, the marchers were pushed and punched along the way by leftists and self-described German "anarchists." After the marchers had re-claimed the memorial ground, which had been occupied by counter-demonstrators, Hyo-Jin Moon spoke and prayed at the Wall, joined by thousands of people. He pleaded: "Inside God's heart there is even room for communism. Inside of God there is even room for Gorbachev!"

Anti-communist demonstration on platform in Berlin, 1985

Finally, in 1989, after tremendous efforts, indemnity, and sacrifices, fed-up with a failed socialist state, the people of East Germany themselves staged mass demonstrations, and, on Nov. 9, 1989, forced the communist leaders to open the first gate for East-Berliners to enter West-Berlin. In the following weeks, the Berlin wall ceased to separate the city as many additional gates were opened. Soon after, on Oct. 3, 1990, Germany was re-united and the East-German states joined the Federal Republic of Germany. The once impenetrable and heavily fortified border dividing Berlin and Germany into East and West had come down! That day became the official Day of Reunification of Germany. Incidentally, two years earlier, on Oct. 3, 1988, Father Moon had initiated a church holiday, the Day of the Nation of the Unified World -- coincidence? You be the judge.

Demonstrators carry mock casket for communism at Berlin march in 1986

Fast forward to Oct. 3, 2013: Berlin and Germany have been reunited for 23 years. Freedom for and unity of the German people have prevailed. Berlin is the official capital of Germany again, and has become the cultural mecca of Germany, and, I dare say, Europe. In a decade in which virtually no historian or political commentator believed that the so-called Iron Curtain could be brought down without the lapse of decades, Father Moon showed himself the foremost proponent for freedom and unity of all people. He invested everything in his disposition toward this goal as exemplified by his prescient promotion of German reunification in 1987.